

COVER SHEET FOR AMENDMENT OF POST-TRAVEL SUBMISSION

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2018 JUL 17 PM 2:31

Instructions: Use this form as a cover sheet for any paperwork you may need to submit to the Office of Public Records in order to make your Privately Sponsored Post-Travel Submission complete in accordance with Rule 35. **Only complete this form if you need to submit an amendment to a post-travel filing you have already submitted.**

SUBMIT DIRECTLY TO THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS IN 232 HART BUILDING

Name of Traveler: Kara Van Stralen

Employing Office/Committee: Senator Maggie Hassan

Travel Expenses Paid by (List all sources): Foundation for Rural Service (FRS)

Travel Date(s): April 13, 2018

Description/Title of Attached Forms: Invitation, updated private sponsor form,

Purpose of Amendment (describe the reason for amending original submission):

TO complete the paperwork for this trip

7/17/18
(Date)

Kara Van Stralen
(Signature of Traveler)

Van Stralen, Kara (Hassan)

From: Selesnick, Kelly (Ethics)
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 2:09 PM
To: Van Stralen, Kara (Hassan)
Subject: Post Travel Paperwork for FRS Trip to West Virginia on April 13

Hi Kara,

Thank you for submitting the post travel paperwork for your trip to West Virginia on April 13, sponsored by the Foundation for Rural Service. The paperwork that you submitted was missing your invitation from the sponsor. The paperwork that you submitted also included the original draft versions of the private sponsor travel certification form and the itinerary, instead of the revised versions that the sponsor provided to the Committee for approval. Can you please submit the invitation, as well as the final versions of the private sponsor travel certification form and the itinerary to OPR? I suggest asking the sponsor to send you the most recent versions of the documents so that you can amend your OPR submission accordingly.

Best,
Kelly

Kelly A. Selesnick
Counsel
Select Committee on Ethics
United States Senate
220 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2981 (phone)
(202) 224-7416 (fax)

The information and/or guidance contained in this email is confidential. Any guidance provided is based upon the specific facts presented to the Committee. If this email does not correctly recite the facts, you may not rely on the guidance provided and should contact the Committee immediately for revised guidance. Further, this message is intended only for the recipient. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or other use of this communication is strictly prohibited.

Van Stralen, Kara (Hassan)

From: Jessica Golden <JGolden@frs.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 5:07 PM
To: Van Stralen, Kara (Hassan)
Subject: RE: Day Trip: Rural Broadband Tour for Hill Staff, April 13

Kara—

Wonderful! Thank you for letting me know! I'll touch base with everyone as we get closer to the tour date.

From: Van Stralen, Kara (Hassan) [mailto:Kara_VanStralen@hassan.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 4:47 PM
To: Jessica Golden <JGolden@frs.org>
Subject: RE: Day Trip: Rural Broadband Tour for Hill Staff, April 13

I plan to attend from our office – will get the ethics paperwork turned in soon!

From: Jessica Golden [mailto:JGolden@frs.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 2:54 PM
Subject: Day Trip: Rural Broadband Tour for Hill Staff, April 13

Good Afternoon,

The Foundation for Rural Service would like to invite you on a Rural Broadband Tour day trip to West Virginia on **April 13**.

The purpose of this trip is to educate Hill staff on the geographic and financial challenges of providing robust broadband service to remote areas, as well as to highlight the role rural telecom companies play in providing these essential services that support education, agriculture, health care, and public safety. Attendees will visit Hardy Telecommunications, a small, rural telecommunications cooperative in West Virginia. The group will also visit with rural community leaders representing local government, rural development, industry, and education to discuss ways in which the state has been enhanced by broadband applications. Lastly, the day trip includes a visit to the Smoke Hole Caverns and to a Local 911 Call Center. Drive times through West Virginia will give FRS staff an opportunity to provide educational sessions on the bus, as well as illustrate the difficulty of serving “last mile” areas in a highly rural state.



To attend, please:

1. Respond to this email to confirm a spot on the trip (spaces are limited so **please do RSVP asap**).
2. Submit the attached paperwork to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics, along with:
 - a. A copy of the employee pre-travel authorization form (signed by you and your supervising Senator/Officer)

All the best,
Jessica

Jessica J. Golden
Executive Director



FOUNDATION FOR
RURAL SERVICE

4121 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 22203
Office Phone: 703-351-2044
Cell Phone: 202-841-4995
www.frs.org

Follow FRS on [Facebook](#) for regular updates.

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FOUNDATION FOR
RURAL SERVICE

Itinerary for FRS Congressional Broadband Day Trip to West Virginia *April 13, 2018*

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) is a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to enhancing quality of life in America by promoting a better understanding of rural issues. The vision of FRS is to harness the power of the rural communications industry to enrich lives in America.

The purpose of this trip is to educate Hill staff on the geographic and financial challenges of providing robust broadband service to remote rural areas, as well as to highlight the role rural telecom companies play in providing these essential services that support education, agriculture, health, and public safety. Attendees will visit Hardy Telecommunications, a small, rural telecommunications cooperative in West Virginia. The group will also visit with rural community leaders and discuss ways in which the state has been enhanced by broadband applications. Drive times through West Virginia will give FRS staff an opportunity to provide educational sessions on the bus, as well as illustrate the difficulty of serving “last mile” areas in a highly rural state.

Per the Ethics rules, no registered lobbyists will attend this trip. All expenses will be paid in full by the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) and will be subject to the daily per diem allowances for Senate and House employees—in other words, all meals and transportation for staffers will be covered by FRS within these allowance rates.

Friday, April 13, 2018

7:00—7:30 a.m. Meet to board the bus (*Rayburn House Office Building*). Coffee and bagels will be provided.

7:30—9:30 a.m. Drive from Washington, DC (*Rayburn House Office Building*) to Hardy Telecommunications (*2255 Kimseys Run Road, Lost River, WV*).

- **8:00—9:00 a.m.** Mr. Brian Ford (Senior Regulatory Counsel, NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association) will give staffers an overview of rural broadband history in the U.S., including a regulatory overview, an explanation of the development of the Universal Service Fund and answer any questions the staffers might have.

9:30—10:30 a.m. Arrive at Hardy Telecommunications (*2255 Kimseys Run Road, Lost River, WV*) and Participate in “Welcome to West Virginia” discussion. Hardy Telecom staff, including Mr. Scott Sherman (CEO) and Mr. Derek Barr (Director of Customer Service), will provide a presentation for staff, including an introduction to the state’s history of broadband buildout, the

unique challenges that the development of telecommunications services has faced in the state, and regulatory updates unique to the company and state.

10:30—11:00 a.m. Mr. Derek Barr (Director of Customer Service, Hardy Telecom) will lead staffers on a tour of the Central Office of Hardy Telecom to see their Central Office, the company's switch and hear from staff members on the technical components of the network.

11:00—11:45 a.m. Drive to Moorefield, W.Va. for Lunch Roundtable (*Rural Development Authority; 223 N. Main Street #102, Moorefield, WV*)

11:45—1:15 pm. Lunch Roundtable with Hardy County Community Leaders (*Rural Development Authority; 223 N. Main Street #102, Moorefield, WV*)

Staffers will be joined by community leaders representing local government, rural development, industry, education, public safety, and other areas to hear about how collaborations have led to successful broadband projects, and the many ways Hardy County is benefiting from a modern broadband network. Also discussed will be the unique position that NTCA member Hardy Telecom, a non-profit cooperative, holds in the community in terms of keeping the county competitive with surrounding counties that don't have a similar provider. Lunch will be made by the local Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter, who regularly make meals for different community events and fundraisers, including the annual Rural Development Authority holiday dinner. The cost of the meal for the staffers will be fully covered by FRS and will be under the federal per diem.

Present at the meeting will be:

- Mr. Roy Harper, Chair of the Hardy County Rural Development Authority (Mr. Harper is also a local Future Farmers of America (FFA) teacher and his students will be preparing the meal for the staffers, at full cost to FRS);
- Mr. Harold Michael, Member of the Hardy County Commission;
- Mr. Steve Reckart, Chief of Police for Moorefield, who will discuss the use of broadband by law enforcement and public safety officials in the area;
- Ms. Elizabeth Pennell, President of ASC Services LLC, a transcription company that provides transcripts of government meetings that is based in Hardy County only because of the broadband that is available;
- Ms. Briana LaVorgna, dean of Community Engagement and Partnerships for Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College, who will discuss the opportunities provided for local students through Hardy Telecom's broadband services and community service;
- Hardy Telecom's Mr. Derek Barr (Director of Customer Service) and Ms. Heather Robbins (Business Development Representative) will also join.

1:15—1:45 p.m. Drive to Smoke Hole Caverns in Grant County (*8290 N. Fork Hwy Cabins, WV 26855*).

1:45—2:15 p.m. Staffers will participate in a "Walk and Talk" tour through Smoke Hole Caverns to give context to the conversation they will later have with Ms. Jill Hendrick, the owner

of Smoke Hole Caverns and Log Cabin Resort, which operates the Caverns as well as log cabins and is a source of economic development for the small, rural Appalachian community in Grant County. On the “Walk and Talk,” staffers will be accompanied by Mr. Derek Barr (Director of Customer Service, Hardy Telecom) as well as an employee of Smoke Hole Caverns (to be assigned on the day-of by the Caverns). Both will provide a background of the area’s many geographical challenges to providing broadband service, including a description of the thick rock deposits that make it very difficult to provide either wireless or wired broadband.

2:15—3:00 p.m. After a short tour of the Caverns, staffers will meet with Ms. Jill Hendrick, the owner of Smoke Hole Caverns and Log Cabin Resort, a local small business that struggles with access to an adequate broadband connection. Ms. Hendrick will share her experience working to provide her business and community with broadband and how the lack of adequate broadband adversely affects her business.

3:00—3:15 p.m. Drive to Local 911 Call Center/Data Center in Grant County (*155 Technology Lane, Petersburg, WV*)

3:15—4:00 p.m. Staffers will visit the Grant County 911 Center in the Grant County Industrial Park (*155 Technology Lane, Petersburg, WV*). The group will be met by Ms. Tammy Kitzmiller (Executive Director of the Grant County Development Authority), to hear about how an ongoing broadband project with Hardy Telecom will greatly enhance the emergency safety operations at the center, and how the broadband connection with the adjoining Data Center will bring new business opportunities to Grant County.

4:00—6:00 p.m. Tour ends, staffers drive back to Washington, DC (*Drop off at Rayburn House Office Building*).

- **4:30—5:30 p.m.** Mr. Brian Ford (Senior Regulatory Counsel, NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association) and Ms. Jessica Golden (Executive Director, Foundation for Rural Service) will host a wrap-up discussion on the bus to answer any questions the staffers might have, the current and future barriers to broadband access in rural America and collaboration with community partners to make access to telecommunications services possible.

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

-
1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): Foundation for Rural Service (FRS)
 2. Description of the trip: Travel to West Virginia to meet with a rural broadband provider as well as community leaders to discuss challenges and successes of rural broadband in the state.
 3. Dates of travel: April 13, 2018
 4. Place of travel: West Virginia: Grant & Hardy Counties; towns: Lost River, Moorefield, Petersburg, Cabins
 5. Name and title of Senate invitees: SEE ATTACHED
 6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:
 - ☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
 - OR –
 - ☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
 7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
 - AND –
 - ☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
 8. I *certify* that:
 - ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
 - AND –
 - ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

SEE ATTACHED

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

The mission of FRS is to sustain and enhance quality of life in America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. FRS educates the public on the benefits of rural broadband applications in health, education, agriculture, etc. The trip will showcase the challenges of providing broadband to rural communities.

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

FRS has sponsored similar trips for Congressional staffers, including to Wyoming (2016), Kentucky and Tennessee (2015), upstate New York (2014) and Montana (2013).

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

FRS produces white papers and economic studies on rural broadband issues; hosts an annual youth tour for rural students; sponsors college scholarship and rural grant programs; offers educational events for third parties and Hill staffers like a Broadband 101; Smart Agriculture Summit, etc.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	\$250 for charter bus	NONE	\$34 for breakfast and lunch	\$15 Smoke Hole Caverns Admission Fee

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

All of the trip is planned specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

Rural West Virginia highlights a wide variety of geographic challenges reflecting those faced by other areas of the US. The location is also possible to visit in a day trip from DC.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

NONE; DAY TRIP ONLY.

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

N/A

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

The day's meals will be less than the federal per diem rate for meals.

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

FRS will hire a bus to take the staffers on the day trip. FRS based the bus selection on the capability of the vehicle to navigate rural, often mountainous terrain.

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None.

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor:

Name and Title: Jessica Golden, Executive Director

Name of Organization: Foundation for Rural Service

Address: 4121 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1000, Arlington, VA 22203

Telephone Number: 703-351-2044

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: jgolden@frs.org

Senate Staffers Invited on FRS Congressional Broadband Tour Day Trip to West Virginia 2018

First Name	Last Name	Congressional Office	Title	Email
Kara	Van Stralen	Senator Maggie Hassan	Senior Policy Advisor	Kara_VanStralen@hassan.senate.gov
Adam	Lachman	Sen. King	Director of Innovation and Economic Development	Adam_Lachman@king.senate.gov
Flynn	Rico-			Flynn_Rico-
Jennifer	Johnson	Sen. Klobuchar	Legislative Assistant	Johnson@klobuchar.senate.gov
Brendon	Humphrey	Sen. Boozman	Legislative Assistant	Jennifer_Humphrey@boozman.senate.gov
Victoria	Dorgan	Sen. Heitkamp	Legislative Assistant	Brendon_Dorgan@heitkamp.senate.gov
Zahava	Flood	Sen. Capito	Legislative Assistant	victoria_flood@capito.senate.gov
Jackson	Urecki	Sen. Manchin	Legislative Assistant	Zahava_urecki@manchin.senate.gov
Devin	Cosko	Sen. Hassan	Legislative Assistant	Jackson_cosko@hassan.senate.gov
Virginia	Parsons	Sen. Peters	Legislative Assistant	Devin_parsons@peters.senate.gov
Becky	McNaught	Sen. Casey	Legislative Assistant	Virginia_lenahan@casey.senate.gov
Andrew	Lock	Sen. Shaheen; Senate Small Business	Counsel; Committee Staffer	Becky_mcnaught@sbcsenate.gov
Joshua	Sizemore	Sen. Roy Blunt	Legislative Assistant	andrew_lock@blunt.senate.gov
Saat	Aléty	Sen. Daines	Legislative Assistant	Joshua_Sizemore@daines.senate.gov
Michael	Farr	Sen. Scott	Legislative Assistant	saat_aléty@scott.senate.gov
Mary	Munro	Sen. Joni Ernst	Legislative Assistant	Michael_Farr@ernst.senate.gov
Katie	Aafedt	Sen. John Hoeven	Legislative Correspondent	MaryKate_Munro@ernst.senate.gov
Sam	Mulopulos	Sen. Rob Portman	Legislative Assistant	alexis_aafedt@hoeven.senate.gov
Ben	Merkel	Sen. Patty Murray	Legislative Assistant	Sam_Mulopulos@portman.senate.gov
Morgan	Carter	Sen. Richard Shelby	Legislative Assistant	ben_merkel@murray.senate.gov
Trevor	Jones	Sen. Wyden	Legislative Assistant	morgan_carter@shelby.senate.gov
				trevor_jones@wyden.senate.gov

ATTACHMENT FOR PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM (Senate)

Page 2 of 2 (Question 12)

Foundation for Rural Service (FRS)

Congressional Broadband Tour Day Trip to West Virginia

April 13, 2018

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

FRS is the sole sponsor of the trip and will make all arrangements for travel (transportation and meals) and will incur all expenses. As a foundation, FRS receives donations from many different companies and individuals that make its programs possible. Some funding is given specifically for educational awareness activities and programming. It is up to FRS to decide how to use this funding—and we have done so for telehealth summits, broadband 101s and this trip, for example, all education on rural issues as per our mission—and there has been no direct, nor indirect, requirements on how to use our funding beyond for educational awareness on rural issues (as established in our mission). No funding provided to FRS by any of its donors or contributors has been earmarked for this specific trip.



FOUNDATION FOR
RURAL SERVICE

Itinerary for FRS Congressional Broadband Day Trip to West Virginia *April 13, 2018*

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) is a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to enhancing quality of life in America by promoting a better understanding of rural issues. The vision of FRS is to harness the power of the rural communications industry to enrich lives in America.

The purpose of this trip is to educate Hill staff on the geographic and financial challenges of providing robust broadband service to remote rural areas, as well as to highlight the role rural telecom companies play in providing these essential services that support education, agriculture, health, and public safety. Attendees will visit Hardy Telecommunications, a small, rural telecommunications cooperative in West Virginia. The group will also visit with rural community leaders and discuss ways in which the state has been enhanced by broadband applications. Drive times through West Virginia will give FRS staff an opportunity to provide educational sessions on the bus, as well as illustrate the difficulty of serving “last mile” areas in a highly rural state.

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Present at the meeting will be:

- Mr. Roy Harper, Chair of the Hardy County Rural Development Authority (Mr. Harper is also a local Future Farmers of America (FFA) teacher and his students will be preparing the meal for the staffers, at full cost to FRS);
- Mr. Harold Michael, Member of the Hardy County Commission;
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of Smoke Hole Caverns and Log Cabin Resort, which operates the Caverns as well as log cabins and is a source of economic development for the small, rural Appalachian community in Grant County. On the “Walk and Talk,” staffers will be accompanied by Mr. Derek Barr (Director of Customer Service, Hardy Telecom) as well as an employee of Smoke Hole Caverns (to be assigned on the day-of by the Caverns). Both will provide a background of the area’s many geographical challenges to providing broadband service, including a description of the thick rock deposits that make it very difficult to provide either wireless or wired broadband.

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FOUNDATION FOR
RURAL SERVICE

You're Invited: A Rural Broadband Day Trip to West Virginia

When: April 13, 2018

Broadband is an increasingly important asset for all communities in the United States, but particularly those that are rural areas. Today, for job creation, as well as applications in healthcare, education, public safety, agriculture, and even small business, broadband access is essential.

Join the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) this spring as we explore the majestic beauty of West Virginia to learn about the challenges to, and opportunities gained by, providing broadband to very rural areas of the United States.



This trip will comply with all House and Senate ethics rules on privately sponsored travel for Hill staff.

If you have any questions, would like more information, or would like to go ahead and reserve a space, please contact Jessica Golden at (703) 351-2044, or jgolden@frs.org.

Space is limited so please RSVP.

The Foundation for Rural Service is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Arlington, Va. Our mission is to sustain and enhance quality of life in America by advancing an understanding of rural issues. www.frs.org.